# THE ARNIMS OF PRUSSIA

Sketch of the Founder of the Present Race of the Arnims of the German Territory.

A GRAND GENEALOGICAL DESCENT.

The Ancestral Home of Soldiers and Statesmen.

BERLIN, Feb. 1, 1875. Much has been said about the Argims of Prus. sia, yet a little more will cortainly be acceptable. pecially in view of the possibility or probability of this family soon coming to power in Prussia or Germany. A lew days ago a very interesting book was lent to me. It was primarily a description of Schloss Boytzenburg, a possession of one of the Arnims, but contained all the historical data connected with the origin and development of the great aristocratic lamily. For a space of 800 years the history is traced for us, and in its perusal we came across some very interesting old characters, sketches of whom may interest you, as they the sketch of Hans George von Arnim, a man who stood opposed to Wallenstein and played a most important part in the Thirty Years' War. Of the present Arnims and Count Harry we shall say but little in this article. We must reserve some of our interesting facts until either he or the one of Boytzenberg becomes German Chancellor.

THE ORIGIN OF THE ARNIMS. The Arnim lamily is one of the strongest and oldest noble houses of Prussia and its origin dates away back in the Middle Ages. So long ago as the tays of Kaiser otto HI. (983-1000), we hear of a re-nowned knight named Eridagus of Arnim. He distinguished himself for his bravery in the wars against the Danes, who, in 988, invaded the German coast near Stade, on the Elbe. In the twelth century the race of the Arnims had attained to great power and extent, and nobles of this house held possessions in the principality of Geldera, in the county of Zutphen, in the Netherlands, in the duchy of Cleve, in Mecklenourg, Pomerania, in the Mark of Brandenburg, and even in Bavaria and Franconia. The Arnim family residing in the Mark Brandenburg it was which soon attained the greatest power and fame in the Empire. Members of this branch became distinguished as generals and statesmen, and all were famous for their loyalty to the Empire, even at the time when Germany was simply the "lootball" of loreign Powers and parties.

ARNIM-THE ANCESTRAL HOME. The ancestral home of the Arnim family of Brandenburg is generally considered to be the village of Arnim, near Stendal, in the Altmark. Documents from the time of the Margraves Johann I. and Otho Ill., of the year 1229, mention the name of Alard of Arnim, the oldest known member of tais branch. The village of Arnim appears to have been the ancestral seat of the Brandenburg Ar. nims up to the fitteenth century. The family held at that time rich estates, not only in the Altmark but in the Uckermark, and in the latter land we and mention in a document of the year 1286 of a certain Hennekinus (Henning) of Arnim, who is the ancestor of the Brandenburg Counts of Arnim so distinguished in German history. His descend ants acquired extensive possessions in the Ucker mark and the neighboring counties, and they bore, besides the original jamily name, that of the estates on which they dwelt.

THE RACE OF THE ARNIMS thus became divided into numerous branches. The principal branches of the Arnims in the Uckermark are, since 1375, the Biesenthal and the Zehdenick lines. These two principal lines were again divided into numerous offshoots, of which a number have, in the course of centuries, died out, while others have, with the acquisition of new Thus, for example, Count Harry von Arnim, by the acquisition of his Pomeranian estates, has become the founder of a new line-the Counts of Arnim-Nassenheide-which, like the line of Arnim-Kroch lendors, whose present owner is the brother-in-law of Prince Bismarck, and the line of Arnim-Boyt. senburg, whose calef is the prother-in-law of Count Harry von Arnim, have proceeded from the principal Arnim-Biesenthal line. It would lead us too iar to follow the Arnims from generation to generation. We must be content, therefore, with mentaning some of the most famous members of the remarkable family, whose descendants met a few days ago in council at Berlin.

HANS GEORGE OF ARNIM. Let us giance at the life of that worthy knight, Hans George von Arnim, imperial Field Marshal Generalissimo, born in 1581, died in 1641. Hans George began his career in 1613 by entering the Swedish military service, following the custom of his day of accepting foreign service when there were no opportunities for fighting in the Fatherland. Gustavus Adolphus had then declared war against the Czar Michael III. Feodorowitsch, of the use of the Romanon's, desiring to secure the Russian crown for himself or his brother, Carl Philip. After the conclusion of peace, Hans George von Arnim was intrusted by Gustavus Adoiphus with various missions, and he it was who completed the negotiations respecting the marriage of Gustavus with Maria Eleonora, the sister of the Elector George William, of Brandenburg. Hans George left the Swedish service in 1621, in order to offer his sword to King Sigismund, of Poland, and to assist him in his struggle against the Turks. At the nead of a regiment of Germans he fought that the latter was gind to she for terms. In the following year he left the Pollsh service and returned to Germany, where

THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR was already raging. The Elector George William, of Brandenburg, under the influence of the im-perialist, Count Adam, of Schwarzenberg, was for a long time devoted to the imperial interests, especially after the first causes of the war-the oppression of the Protestants-had been placed in the background by political issues, and the straggle had become, especially by the interference of the Danish King, Christian IV., more a political than a religious one. So Hans George, though a Protestant and a true friendof the evangencal faith, entered the service of the Emperor Ferdinand II., in 1626, when, as military councillor and commander of norse and toot, he aided

Walledstein in his most important operations. He was observice to his own fatherland, however, in procuring from Wallenstein the appointment as commander of the imperial troops in Brindenburg so long as any chould be necessary there. In this position he took care to prevent excesses and abuses by his soldiery.

BANS GEORGE AND GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS. In 1623 Halls George was raised by Kaiser Ferdinand II, to the aignity of imperial freid Marshal, and as such he conducted the beleaguering of Straisund until the arrival of Wallenstein, when after the siege was raised, the banes were driven out of Pomeraula, and the chemy were competied straisend until the arrival of Walenztein, when, after the siege was raised, the banes were driven out of Pomerania, and the enemy were compelled to make peace, at Lubeck on the 12th of May, 1829. Immediately afterward he received the command to lead the Poles, with 10,000 men, against the Ewedes. He gained a bloody victory on the Stonm Heath, near Marienwerder, on the 26th of June, 1629, wherevoy Gustavus Adolphus barely escaped being taken prisoner. The Swedes thet entered into a truce with the Poles for a cessation of hostifiles during the space of six years. The Restutiones Early issued by Kaiser Ferdinand on the offi of Marcu, 1629, rendered it impossible for flans George as a Protestant to go longer service to the imperial cause, he returned to his estates, which had been totally runed by the Banes, though it was a long time before the Protestant princes took him into grace. On the 25th of June, 1639, Gustavus Adolphus landed on German son, occupied Ponerania and many places in Meckenourg and the Uckermark. The North German evangelical princes met in April, 1631, at Leipsic, th order to discuss the position they should take in the expected struggle between

Bans George von Araim, then Field Marshal in the service of Saxony, appeared at the Assembly with the Electors of Saxony and Brandenburg, and he it was who negotiated the aliance octaves of Bandenburg, and the two Gustavus and the two Professant Electors. On the 7th of September, 103, the oattle of Brettenfeld took place between the impersibles, under fully and Count Pappenneim, and the Swedes and Earons under Gustavus Addippus and Hans George von Araim. The Victory of the Swedes Control of the Swedes

tirely abandoned by the imperial army. Gustavus Adolphus tuen proceeded with his army to the Rhime and the Palatinate. Hans George led the Saxons to Böhemia, took possession in October, 1631 of Teschen, Leitmetriz, Randwitz and Prague, deleated at Lindburg the cavalry sent by Tilly to stop his progress, and in November compelled Eger, then Schinckenwerth and Fakkenau to capitulate. Kaiser Ferdinand, seeing the deleats be was suffering, called Wallenstein (whom he had dismissed in 1630) again to his aid, and this general, supported by a large army, compelled Arnim to retire to Saxony in 1632, low-ever, he ed a united army of Saxons. Swedes and Brandenburgers to Silesta, where he restablished the Protestant service and was everywhere Welcomed as deliverer. On the 6th of August he stormed and took Giogan, in September Bresiau, secured in October further successes, and would have accompassed more but for the refusal of the Swedish and Brandenburg generals to support him. Gustavus Acolphus fell in the battle of Lutzen on the leth of November, 1632, whereupon Elector John George, of Saxony, called Arnim from Silesia to Dresden, in order to discuss with him the plans for the luture.

ARNIM DICTATING TERMS.

On the 30th of November Arnim sent in his advice, to the effect that the alliance with the Swedes should be upheld; that the Elector Rimself should be commander-in-chief, and that three armies should be formed—one on the Rhime, to operate against the Spaniards; a second on the Main, to oppose the Bavarians, and a tutre on the Eide and the Oder, for the protection of Saxony and Brandenburg. He declared this most be done in order to attain peace; out he would have a peace for the whole of Germany, and onsee upon a well approved constitution for the whole of the Empire. Without such a constitution, he said, the Empire, which is no part of Germany, whether Protestant or Cathodic, should be excluded, and that therefore a general pardon to all Protestants within the reach of the Emperor should be avenued that therefore a nimself and the evangelists, and then, united with them to dictate terms of peace of Kaiser Ferdinand. Arnim at first refused to enter into negotiations with Waisenstein, but on receiving an intimation from the Elector to see the imperialist general, he was about to proceed to Tisen, when the news arrived that Waisenstein, by command or the Kaiser, had been assassinated.

A battle took piace at Liegaitz on the 18th of May, 1634, between Arnim and the imperial general, count Coloredo. The imperialists were deseated and the result was that nevotiations for a separate peace were instituted between the Emperor and the Elector—and, in lact, a one-sided freaty was

and the result was that begotiations for a separate peace were instituted between the Emperor and the Elector—and, in fact, a one-sided treaty was signed on the soft of May, 1635, at Prague, the Elector leaving the Swedes and the Silesians in the turch, but receiving for himself the Laustiz and four Mingdeourgian estates and the Archibisnopric of Macdeourg for his son during like Arnim was greatly enraged at this one-sided peace, and left the Saxon service in disgust and retired to the Mark. Shortly atterward the Elector of Brandenburg and nearly all the other German princes accepted the terms of the treaty of Prague. The Swedes alone refused. This grought on the French-Swedish part of the Thirty Years' war, 1635–1640, when the conflict became entirely a political one. France and Sweden were united against the imperial party, and in October, 1655, the Swedes began hostifites against Saxony.

ARNIM DID NOT REST long out of harness. Refusing to accept command in the French army, he declared his readness to accept service in Saxony in case a general amhesty should be given to the oppressed Siesians. The negotiations to these ends were going on when a strong command of swedish cavary sudenly swept upon Schloss Boytzeuberg, and carried Hans George von Arnim Aprisoner To Stock.

HANS GEORGE VON ARNIM A PRISONER TO STOCK-

denly swept upon Schloss Boytzenberg, and carried

HANS GEORGE VON ARNIM A PRISONER TO STOCKHANS GEORGE VON ARNIM A PRISONER TO STOCKHANS GEORGE VON ARNIM A PRISONER TO STOCKHANS GEORGE VON ARNIM A PRISONER TO STOCKHOLM.

In October, 1638, he managed to effect his escape.
He took service again in Saxony, and was first
used in diplomatic missions, in order to bring
about a united action between the Saxons, Prussians, Poies, Danies, the German princes and the
free cities, for the purpose of freeing Germany
from the Swedes. After this alliance had occubrought about, Arnim accepted the chief command
of the imperial and Saxon allied troops, but
shortly afterwards, April 25, 1641, he was suddenly
struck aown by death, in consequence of too great
exertions. And with him ceased the hopes of
being soon freed from the Swedes and of securing
Pomerana by this time for the Elector of Brandenburg. His boody was solemnly placed to rest in the
Kreuzkirche at Dresden. His life had been one of
great interest, and its record fills many interesting pages in German history. Notwithstanding
the old hero's many changes of service, he was at
heart true to his latherland, and even when in the
finence to save his native land from the greater
horrors of war-sacking and pillasing. What with
the sacking of his palace by the Swedes, he heavy
war and peace contributions of his times, finns
George leif little to his descendants except estates
burdened with dect.

DESCENDANTS OF HANS GEORGE.

When under Frederick William, the greates: of
the electors of Brandeaburg, this State, then a
very small affair indeed, commenced to assume the
responsibility of protecting Protestantism in
Germany, and began the developments which
ended in the electorate becoming one of the
great European Powers, the Armims were never
missing, either on the battle field or in the
councils of the Hohenzollern. It would lead us
too lar here to speak at length about the many
Armims who played important rôtes in the siring
gless of Brandeaburg against Sweden,

He took part in twenty-five campaigns, seventeen sieges, and the dry record of his military career would occupy pages.

Another member of the family, George Dietloff you Arnim, became Prussian Minister and left a high record. Born in 1679, he held the highest offices of State under three kings; from 1706 to 1738 Governor of the Uckermark; in 1738 Minister of State and President of the War Department, and Director and Curator of the Academy of Science at Berlin. He received the order of the Black Eagle and died in 1763.

George Dietloff von Arnim's grandson, Wilhelm von Arnim, who died in 1801, became Prussian Minister of State and was elevated by his sovereign to the rank and dignity of a count. His grandson again, Count Adolf Heinrich von Arnim (born 1803), early obtained the highest offices and trusts of State. At thirty he was Government President in Stralsund: then he was trained and the rank and grandson, then he was trained to bring about a reconclination between the Prussian government are the Archibishop of toloigne, in 1842 he was called to Berlin as Minister of the Interior, which post he occupied a seat in the United Landtag, where he was distinguished as a speaker, and was respected and nonored by the opposition. In the "hight of terror," from the 18th to the 18th of March, 1848, he was instrusted by Frederick William IV, with the formation of a new cabinet, of which he himself was the President—the first Prussian Minister-President. But this post he occupied only ten days, retiring on account of a didefence of opinion with his sovereign. In 1854 he was called us a hereditary member of the Prussian House of January, 1868.

His son, Count Adolf von Arnim Boytzeneurg,

fives. He died at Scious Boyleander, of January, 1868.

His son, Count Adolf von Arnim Boyleander, is at present forty years of age, and President of the province of Sileria, and he will in all probability soon be called to be Minister of the finterior, as soon as this post is vacant, and he is generally blocked upon as the probable successor of Prince Bismarck in the Chancellorship of the Princes.

### BISMARCK'S BUGBEAR.

[From the New Yorker Presse, Feb. 22.] The NEW YORK HERALD, which is certainly the most widery circulated newspaper on the face of the earth, is becoming more and more the bugbear of the organ of the German Chancellor, and probably of the latter himself (else he would promibit the ravings of the Nordestache Allgemeine). However, as it is impracticable to shence the charty correspondents or the fearless editors of this world-sheet, they have recourse to a means of bringing the paper into disreptite which has frequently proven effectual in Germany—namely, of calling the Hernald an organ of the Jesnits. If they want to throw suspiction upon a German-American, upon a free-thinker (in liberal national circles), a national enthusiast, or a subject, they only need to call him a Jesnit and their aim is accomplished. It is not necessary to quote at length the efforts of the German-American press in this direction. They are well known everywhere, and our columns attest them sufficiently. The efforts of our German-American press and of our Bismarckists are also known to our readers, as we discuss them occasionally. It is out a repetition of the old experience that the men who are the traitors to the persecuted came, who are the renegates, are the loudest in their effusions of loyality toward the "Emperor and the Empire." You need only move in the circle of certain societies of New York to meet with the ex-Catholic village schoolina-ters and significant propositions of the consolidated in the office of the prosecution and the Empire." You need only move in the circle of certain societies of New York to meet with the ex-Catholic village schoolina-ters and significant or of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organization of the proposition of the consolidated in the organizati ably of the latter himself (e'se he would prohibit the ravings of the Norddeutsche Allgemeine). However, as it is impracticable to shence the

bred in antagenism to the Catholic Church. Several mousand years have passed, but Can and Absalom still pass as types of the most abominable inhumanity. But let us drop the ex-village school masters, the quacks and the others who delignt in the roles of renegades in our must, to return to the "Allgenieme Zeitung" and the New York Herald The organ of Prince Bismarck isoors under a great error in supposing that it can reach the Herald by the same kind of dedunciation in American circles that proves effected in Protestant Germany—namely, that it is an organ of the Jesmits, if you heave out a comparatively small clique of professional "progressists," such a policy will certainly be of no avail even in German-American circles, nor to speak of the English-speaking or American circles. This fact constitutes one of the great advantages of this country, despite its lond-iamented drawbacks over the old Fatherland, and more especially over that puritanical Prussia, whose pride it was once in polities "to let every one be happy

this country, despite its loud-lamented array-backs, over the old Fatherland, and more especially over that puritanical Prussia, whose pride it was once in politics to let every one be happy after his own lashion."

Why single out the HERALD as a scapegoat when there are but very few papers out of the thousands in this country who defend Bismarck's policy of "blood and iron." and his persecution of the Charca? Why should the American people oecome accompiles in this perverted policy which the Chancellor has adopted with such obstinacy? Persecution of the clergy, persecution of the press, persecution of the democrats, persecution of the national Legislature—these and other things are not only not congenial to the American, but he really does not comprehend their possibility even. If he has a dawning conception of them in consequence of President Grant's attempt at usurpation the American's attitude his at least sufficiently demonstrated how despotic desires and dynastic imitations will be met. The God in whom the citizens of American behave is still their only Sovereign and Master here, and hence the Church is still free, and emperors and despots are still at a discount. If the organ of Prince Bismarck and the other journals that defend the present policy of the German Empire could only realize this fundamental element in the American character, they would find the attitude of an independent world-paper like the Herallo not only comprehensible, but natural and necessary, and cease to make themselves ridiculous in American circles by denouncing it as an organ of Jesutism. Even to a German reader across the ocean the columns of the rierallo not only comprehensible.

The sing charge, for they prove not only that they are open to the discussion of the lateresis of all sects, but that the doings of all the sects are discussed by the editorial staff regularly twice a week.

He who knows that this policy of the Rekald

are discussed by the editorial staff regularly twice a week.

He who knows that this policy of the Herald toward religious and church questions was adopted long octore the beginning of the present strue in Germany and even long before the Nord Deutsche Allgemeine had its existence, will comprehend without difficulty how aimless and ineffectual are the attacks of the Nord Deutsche Allgemeine upon the New York Herald. The only effect they can have is that the un-American world will become still more eager to know the contents of its columns. If Mr. Bennett's paper needed an advertisement for the outside world he could desire no better than is given to it by the organs of Bismarck.

#### CRIMINAL LAW IN ENGLAND.

GOVERNMENT PROJECT FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC PROSECUTORS-THE DIFFERENCES WHICH PREVAIL IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE POLICE SYSTEM.

The government has prepared a bill, which will be introduced in the House of Commons almost immediately after the meeting of Parliament, for the appointment of public prosecutors in England. I have seen a draft of this proposed statute. Before giving a summary of its provisions I shall state what the condition of things now is with regard to criminal prosecutions in this country. England is the only country in Europe without a public prosecutor. When I say so I do not except even the other portions of the United Kingdom; for in Ireland the Irish Attorney General and in Scotland the Scottish Lord Advocate are public prosecutors. As the Scotch law is different from the English in many respects it is not, perhaps, surprising that its administration should also be different from the administration of the law in England; but as, saving in respect of coercion acts and the like, the common and statute laws are precisely the same in England and Ireland, and as, moreover, their administration generally is conducted on the same system in both countries, it is astounding that, while for some centuries back there has been a public prosecutor in Ireland, it is only now we are waking up to the necessity for one in England. And this is all the more wonderful because the abuses and shortcomings resulting from the want of such an official have long been notorious, and from time to time have been brought under the notice of the Imperial Parisment. In very special cases now

PROSECUTIONS are conducted by departments of the government. Thus the Treasury prosecutes in some murder cases and in such cases as the blowing up of a portion of the House of Detention by the Feniana. Again, the Post Office prosecutes when letters are stolen by sorters or letter carriers, and Mint prosecutions-i. e., prosecutions against persons conducted under the Attorney General. But nineteen-twentieths of the prosecutions in England are left to take care of themselves during one-

are left to take care of themselves during one-half their process and go a-begging during the other half. Inousands of people suffer the loss of property rather than attempt to bring the taleves to justice, so expensive is to force to institute a criminal prosecution on his own account. This, be it conserved in passing, is the only country in Europe, at least, where a private prosecution in a criminal court is permitted. And this brings me to what is, percaps, the very worst agues in the criminal court is permitted. And this brings me to what is, percaps, the very worst agues in the criminal system of England.

PRIVATE PROSECUTIONS—

that is, prosecutions instituted and carried on by private persons—are very often adopted for the working out of questionable objects. Usurers and shopkeepers who find a difficulty in recovering their money allege mise presences on the part of their creditors, where there are really nothing of the kind, in order to bring the screw of criminal courts to bear as a more effective instrument of compussion then any that can be found in civil proceedings. But even where there is only a nominal private prosecutor, and criminal proceedings. But even where there is only a nominal private prosecutor, and criminal proceedings, are carried out in a District Court of a Court of County Assize, the system of procedure, except where a department of the government prosecutes, is most objectionable, and in the last degree unworthy of a great country which uses the mains of the sovereign as prosecutor in all cases. When a case is in its preliminary stage before the magistrate there is hobody to conduct to but the policeman who happens When a case is in its preliminary stage before the magistrate there is nobody to conduct it but the policeman who happens to have the accused in his charge. The consequence is that very often cases are sent up for trial before the Judge and jury on very imperfect depositions. When the prosecution does reach the Superior Court and the case is about to be called on for trial, the depositions are handed by the officer of the Court to some one of the barristers who attend the particular Court in search of practice. Thus it may happen, and does often happen, that they are handed to very incompetent men—mere wig blocks—in whose hands the culprit has a better chance of escape than it no one at all appeared for the prosecution. It is not so

one at an appeared for the prosecution. It is not so

IN IRELAND.

There no prosecution can be carried to the District or Assize Court without the flat of the Attorney, General authorizing harther proceedings. By this means many abortive prosecutions are appear in the bud and much expense saved to the country, as well as much adjustice to accused persons. Moreover, the Attorney General is represented in every criminal court by barristers of his own selection, and thus there is some guarantee for the conduct of the prosecution by a competent person. For each of the four provinces of Ireland there is a trown solicitor, who is charged with the duty of preparing the cases for the criminal courts and drawing up the briefs for the prosecuting counsel. This is the system which should be adopted for Enginaci out.

# THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

The United States Expeditionary Ship Swatara Searching for German Scientists.

The Prussians Found-Comfortable, Successful and Happy.

Comparing Notes --- A Bright Record for the American Astronomers.

United States Steamer Swatara, }
Dunedin, New Zealand, Jan. 16, 1876. }
The United States expeditionary ship Swatara left Hobart Town for the Auckland Islands on the 18th of December, or, more properly, she sailed ing to touch at the Aucklands en route. This was in pursuance of a request from the German Consul General at Melbourne, who was fearful that the German transit party sent to these islands had met with some serious mishap, as nothing had been heard of them on their arrival since their departure from Meloourne, more than three months before. According to arrangements, their vessel, a small sailing bark, should have made during this period two visits to New Zealand for chronometer comparison, and the absence of all news from her, taken in connection with the fact that this group of rocks is almost constantly with an impenetrable vall of log, rain or snow, and girt about with miles of reefs and sunken rocks, was sufficient to excite the liveliest apprehension.

THE COURSE OF THE GOOD SAMABITANS Accordingly, when, upon the morning of the 23d. the main island was made out through the mist, all of the telescopes and binoculars in the ship were brought into requisition to discover traces, if possible, of the German observing party. Our course lay up a long bay or arm of the sea, named upon the charts as Sarah's Bosom, and as we steamed slowly along in the shadow of the savage looking cliffs, and saw and heard the tremendous westerly swell breaking and thundering into foam upon the rocks that lay upon all sides, we began to believe that the fears of the Consul were to be realized. However, as we passed around one of the larger islands in the og, we suddenly opened on a small cove upon the right and saw dimly through the mist a collection of about a dozen small white, cottage-looking buildings nestling closely together at the root of

THE PRUSSIANS FOUND COMFORTABLE AND INDUSTRIOUS.
Shortly afterward the Swatara was at smchor, a boat was manned and several of the officers went ashore. The sight of the observatories had of course dispelled all lears for their safety, but everybody was anxious to know what success had attended their observations on the day of the very comfortably situated indeed; lodged in a fine. capacious cottage, furnished with every conventence. They had met with

NOTHING BUT SUCCESS since leaving Melbourne. They had arrived at the islands after a short voyage, located their sta tion and sent the vessel to New Zessland to compare chronometers with our station at Queenstown, and she was expected back any day. She arrived the next day. They were under a thousand obligations to Captain Changler for his kindness; but really they wanted for nothing in the world but clear weather to enables them to complete their star observatious for latitude and longitude, so that they might return home, and they would be very glad to compare chronometers with us.

NOTES OF THE PRUSSIAN OBSERVERS. In answer to the questions concerning the sucthey told us that the transit had occurred on the only clear day they had had for weeks, and that they thought themselves remarkably fortunate. During the early part of the day it had rained heavily, but the weather beid cleared when the transit was thirty minutes old, and the sky had remained clear until thirty minutes after the transit was over.

They secured 115 photographs-good onesseveral micrometric measurements and perfect observations of internal and external contact at

The entire party, eight an ail, came on board and dined in the wardroom, and we had a very jolly evening after the German lashion. We remained half their process and go a-begging during the over until the afternoon of the next day-Christ-Sunday evening.

AMERICA'N SUCCESSES.

We learned here that the weather in all parts of New Zealand had been most unfavorable on the day of the transit; the only successful party being toat of the Americans at Queenstown, in charge of Dr. Peters. He succeeded in obtaining over 200 perfect photograpus, with numerous micrometric measurements and perfect observations of the last contacts, both external and internal.

ENCO ASH REPORTS. The principal English observing station in New Zealand was at Courst Church, and Major Palmer

in charge telegraphed as lollows:m charge telegraphed as follows:—
From Burnham oe servatory here the observation of lugrees was spoiled by clouds which prevented any measurements with the double image micrometer, prior to interinal contact, and entirely ind the planet from view a lew seconds before the contact itself. Photograpas near the contact were impossible. About fourteen minutes after contact the sum showed an little more brightly at intervals, and a few micrometic measures of the distance of limbs were made during some eight or ten minutes, but; these wound be of but little distance of limbs were made during some eight of ten minutes, but these would be of but little value. A lew photographs, most of them indifferent, were also secured. At intee o'clock the sun became entrely aidden, at balt-past tour o'clock the look of the sky to windward gave nopes that the observation at egress—of immeasely greater value than that of ingress—might yet be seen ed, but it again o'conded over, and the sun was not seen at all from naif-past three until some ten minutes after the end of the transit, when it shope brightly until sunset.

The five sub-stations at Grahamstown, Auct.

The five sub-stations at Grahamstown, Auckland, Welling con, Dunedin and Naseby met with the same bad fortune, both at ingress and egress. THE FILLINCH ASTRONOMICAL RESULT.

To-day the French war steamer Le Vire, with the French Venus transit party on board, arrived from the Canty pell Islands-a small group situated about two heardred miles to the southward of the Auckland Isles. She is on her way home with the party and instruments. They report that they had almost continuous stormy weather during their stay, that the sun was entirely obscured during the transit, and that consequently no observations of any kind were secured.

THE AUSTRALASIAN PARTIES' NOTES. During titis visit to Dunedin we learned some thing of the success attending the Australian transit parties. They were nearly all fortunate in having good weather, and very valuable data were

The government astronomer at Sydney reported that a beardiful halo was visible around Venus. indicating the atmosphere, which was visible before the pinnet was wholly on the sun. No black drop was discernible. The government parties have a total of \$60 photographs of the ingress and egress and 350 photographs of the planet on the

egress and. 350 photographs of the planet on the sun.

The astronomer at Bitsbane reports that the day was favorable, and that no black drop was seen. The dark edge of Venus was illuminated five minutes before contact. At the station internal contact at ingress and egress was observed.

At Will amstown, a sub-station near Melbourne, the luternal and external contacts at egress were cobserved, and the astronomer at Carlton was even more fortunate, for ne observed the internal contact at ingress and both contacts at egress. The cose were at Emerald Hill was also successful in his observations.

At Adelaside observations were secured, but at Port Darwin the cloudy weather prevented observations being taken of the first contact, but the transit was visible occasionally afterward.

The sweather left Dunedin on the 30th of December of its Chatnam Island. Arriving there on the station lativity and taking the Chatnam party on board we returned to our anchoring here on the lots linst. We found the Chatnam Island party in good head a out looking rather blue and residing very happy at the prospect of resting away from

the Chathams. All this could be attributed, I suppose, to the fact that they, next after the French transit party at the Campbell Islands, were the most unfortunate of all the observing parties on this hemisphere.

Mr. Edwin Smith, of the United States Coast Survey. Chief of the Chatham Island party, reports that the weather on the day of the transit was execrable. Thick, rainy weather prevalled without break until the planet had completed one-balf of its journey across the sun's face. Thus the contacts at lagress were lost. A short interval of clear way enabled them to secure a number of photographs. Heavy clonds then swept over the face of the sun, and no further observations were possible during the transit.

In summing up the results obtained by the Swatara parties it may be remarked that while no one of the parties was blessed with a perfectly clear sky on the day of the transit still the data obtained are quite enough for the purpose, provided as good results have been obtained at the corresponding stations in the Northern Hemilsphere.

Dr. Peters, of the New Zealand observing station,

corresponding stations in the Northern Hemisphere.
Dr. Peters, of the New Zealand observing station, was, perhaps, the most fortunate of the Americans, obtaining next to a perfect set of observations. While the English parties, in the same country, stationed at Christ cauren, Auckland, Naseby, Weilington and Dunedin, failed entirely on account of the weather, the American parties in Tasmania obtained very good results. But the most fortunate of all were the English parties in Australia. At Sydney and Melbourne the weather was clear, and complete sets of observations were secured, the contacts, both at ingress and egress, being obtained.
At the American station at Chatham Island the results were very meagre and apparently of indi-

Actue American station at Chatham Island the results were very meagre and apparently of indiferent value; but even with the data obtained astronomers will be able to compute with sumicient accuracy, from their knowledge of the grout of the planet and its rate of speed, the path of Venus across the sun's face, if not the exact instants of contact.

of the planet and its rate of speed, the path of Venus across the sun's face, if not the exact instants of contact.

A LOSS TO THE CAUSE OF SCIENCE.

It is to be regretted, of course, that we failed to establish an observing party at the Crozet Islands; but the continuous stormy weather and the dangerous character of the coast, taken in connection with the manted amount of time at our disposal, rendered this imp ssible without running the risk of losing one or two of the other stations. In cases of isolated stations like this foreign governments jurnished each observing party with a separate vessel, the English party at Kerguelen Island having two war steamers for their use. The French party at Campbell Islands, the German parties at Kerguelen, at Mauri ius and at the Aucklands had each a vessel to land and to remain with them, while the Swatara, a third rate American man-of-war, had five parties, with listituments, houses, provisions, &c., complete, to land and attend to. Computations and conrections.

The results of all this expenditure of time and labor will not be known for many months, or, at least, until the astronomers at headquarters have finished their computations and made their final corrections and comparisons with the astronomers and scientific men of other nations; but the sun's distance once accurately known the distances of all the planets will be ascertained, and a great advance will have been made in the most wonderful and mysterious of all the sciences.

BANQUET TO THE AMERICAN AND FRENCH OB-SERVERS OF THE TRANSIT—PROFESSOR PETERS' SPEECH. (From the Otago (New Zealand) Times, Jan. 9.1

The dinner given last evening by the members of the Otago Institute to the officers of the French and American transit of Venus expeditions, was remarkably successful. Seventy-six gentlemen, of whom only twelve or thirteen were non-members, sat down to an excellent dinner. The President of the Institute (Mr. J. T. Thomson) occupied the chair, and was supported on the right and left by Professor Peters and M. Boquet de la Grye and the officers of the French and American expeditions and of the war ship La Vire, His Honor Mr. Justice Chapman and the Rev. Dr. Stuart. Captain Hutton and Messrs. J. S. Webb and McKerrow acted as croupiers.

After juli justice had been done to the viands the Chairman gave a toast to "The very good healths of Dr. Peters and M. Boquet de la Grye and the members of their respective staffs."

and the members of their respective staffs,"

PROFESSOR PETERS, SPEECH.

Professor Peters, who on rising to return thanks on benalf of the American expedition was received with loud and prolonged cheering, said their worthy President had begun his speech by going back thirty years, but he (Professor Peters) would go a little further back and begin at the very beatming. Although they need not be alraid that he was going to make a very long speech, he would begin at the very beginning, when New Zealand made its first appearance in history. The mistorical record of New Zealand began with an astronomical event exactly similar to that which had given the occasion for their intercourse to-night. (Applause.) To observe the transit of Venus in 1769, Captain (then licetenant) Gook was sent out to Otapette. He there became aware from a native tradition of the existence of a large unknown country in the South, and after having accomplished his work at Otahette—having successfully observed the transit of Venus—ne started in search of the continent, and found New Zealand. He circumnavigated new Zealand, and from that day New Zealand existed in history. (Applause.) One hundred and ave years had passed away since then, and now much had changed upon the surface of the earth. If an inhabitant of Venus—nests of mankind, and exercised that power only at those intervals when Venus came midway between, or in the same line with the sun and the earth, which he to be as onished in 1874, when he came to look again upon the same spots that he saw in 1769? He would see beautiful cities earth, would be not be as onished in 1874, when he came to look again upon the same spots that he saw in 1769? He would see beautiful cities where before he only saw whiternesses. He would see that the civilization of Europe had gone through the length and breadth of a country which was then inhabited only by the Maori. He would see arts and manuactures of all kinds established in a country where when Cook sailed would see arts and manuactures of all kinds established in a country where when Cook sailed along its coasts he saw nothing but the poor simple children of buture; and perhaps that same inhabitant of Venus might also cast a glance at Lake Wakatipu—(appause)—and remark there a little party busily engaged looking at Venus and the sun. The problem which they had to solve by observations of the transit of Venus was the mensurement of a very small quantity—to the measurement. sun. The problem which they had to solve by observations of the transit of Venus was the measurement of a smail quantity—to the measurement of a smail quantity by means of two large quantitities. Let them suppose two astronomers, one at the centre of the earth and one at the surface of the earth, tooking at Venus when she was nearly in the direction of the sun. The observer at the centre of the earth would see Venus at a certain point; and the observer at the surface, if not exacely in the direction from the centre of the earth to the sun, would see Venus a little displaced in another point. It was this difference, or this displacement, which had to be measured. He said "the centre of the earth," but, of course, no one—not even their daring friends of the Frence expedition—would venture to go there. Therefore, they took two observations—one in the northern and another in the southern hemisphere—and observed the displacement to regard to the sun's centre between those two points. The further apart the better, and, therefore, the points of observation were extended over as wide a range as possible, and not at that point where Venus was in the Zenith. For that reason every one tried to get as lar away as possible from that point in when Venus was in the Zenith. For points. The further apart the better, and, therefore, the points of observation were extended over as wide a range as possible, and not at that point where Venus was in the zenith. For that reason, also, had the French selected their scation in the very centre of the southern Polar regions. Now, the question was, How could toey measure the displacement upon which all depended, as their chairman had expiained—the paraliax upon which all depended—in order to measure the distance between the sun and the earth. In former times—in the last century—when the previous observations of the transit were taken, there were no other means avainable but to follow the rules of Hailey or De Lisie—to measure the time when Venus would be seen in contact with the sun—when the limbs tonebed either externally or internally. Since that time other sciences had come into existence, and as every science helped the others, these sciences helped astronomy. For instance, they now had photography and when the time was approaching that the transit of Venus should again take place, one of their first ideas was to make use of photography stood in regard to the former measurements. It was necessary to mark the exact time when Venus' centre was a certain distance from the sun's centre. Let them suppose the sun's centre and Venus' were in a vertical line, then the distance of the content would be either snortened or lengthened according as the observer stood in the horthern or southern hemisphere. It Venus and the sun were on the same neavation above the horizon, the paraliax would be either snortened or lengthened according as the observer stood in the horthern or southern hemisphere. It Venus and the sun were on the same neavation above the horizon, the paraliax would be ither snortened or lengthened according as the observer stood in the horthern or southern hemisphere. If venus and the sun tent the sun's centre to venus' made with the content hemisphere in each of the line from the sun's centre to be a flected at all, but it would have been m

not believe that the English, Germans or Russians had photographic instruments as perfect as the Americans and French. He believed, therefore, that each of the American photographs would be superior to each one of the photographs taken by the other nations mentioned. The measure of angular position, however, was peculiar to the Americans. He would now tell them how many observations his party had taken. They had got about 2.96. (Applicate). From that number, however, would have to be deducted over 60; so that of useful observations there were 237—237 measurements of one contact. He had to be explicit on this point in order not to depreciate the observations of his party.

one contact. He had to be explicit on this point in order not to depreciate the observations of his party.

Professor Peters went on to say that, in order to give his audience an idea of the smallness of the angle they wanted to measure, he would ask them to picture to themselves an angle formed with a human hair. The angle which they had to ascertain was equal to an angle formed by a hair extended at a distance of \$,000 feet. They had to measure the thickness of a human hair at a distance of \$,000 leet. This was the first time in history that the United States had participated in an observation of the transit of Venus. This was the first time that the transit of Venus. This was the first time that the transit of Venus. This was the first time that the transit of Venus. The presented in New Zealand since its discovery in 1769. His party left that they could not have accomplished what they had if it were not for the great kindness they had met with.

THE PRENCH ASTRONOMER'S ADDRESS.

M. Boquet de la Grye, the chief of the French expedition, who addressed the company in his nalive language, then said:—After the amiable and complimentary expressions of the President, I must say I feel somewhat con used. I thank the members of the institute for the coronal reception accorded to myself and my countrymen in Dunedin, a reception which bears testimony to the interest taken by it in the astronomical question which we came here to determine a great question—Viz., the distance of our poor globe from the body to which God has given the attribute of conveying us light and heat. My friend who has preceded me—the chief of the American expedition—has had the happiness to meet with complete success, and has been able to attach his name to a successing elucidation of this preservations—he has accomplished all that was to be done.

#### CUBA.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR IN THE CINCO VILLAS DISTRICT-A RIGID CENSORSHIP OVER THE WAR NEWS.

HAVANA, Feb. 17, 1875.

Nothing has been received here for the past week which can be considered reliable from the Cinco Villas or Santi Espiritu. Several despaiches headquarters, in all of which the insurgents have been reported as having been severely punished and retreating to the mountains, burning the cane of all the sugar estates which are in their backward march. On the street there are ramors of insirgent successes, and as the spinish troops have not advanced more than a couple of leagues from their base of operations, the supposition in Hayana is that the insurgents have not retreated at all.

at all.

THE CENSORSHIP OF THE PRESS.

An order is published this morning from General Concha in which he says that he will hold rigorous censorship over the press in regard to news from the Cinco Villas, and any deviation from his order will be severely punished.

CALIXTO GARCIA DEPORTED TO SPAIN.

Among the passengers who sailed from this port on the 15th inst, in the Spanish mail steamer Mendez Nunez for Santander was the insurgent General Calixto Garcia, who is sent to Spain as a political prisoner.

General Calixto Garcia, who is sent to Spain as a political prisoner.

EFFECT OF THE WAR ON THE SUGAR TRADE.

Very little has been done in the shipment of sugar for the past two weeks. Planters who are out of danger are holding on, anticipating a wholesale destruction of the sugar cro, in the neighborhood of Sagua, Cientuegos and the Cinco Villas, and thereby obtaining higher prices.

IMPORTANT CATHOLIC CONVENTION.

ORGANIZATION OF A YOUNG MEN'S NATIONAL UNION.

In accordance with a call issued some time ago by Very Rev. G. H. Doane, V. G., of Newark, and Messrs. John Reagan, E. E. Starrs, T. J. Ryan and James F. Hagan there assembled yesterday afterternoon in the hall of the Catholic Institute, in Newark, N. J., several hundred persons, including delegates from nearly one hundred young men's Catholic and literary societies of various parts of the country, the object being to form a National Catholic Union, on much the same plan as the Young Men's Christian Association and for virtually the same object. The hall was handsomely decorated with flags, streamers and society banners. Among the dele-gates were many clergymen associated with young men's Catholic associations. The Newarkers took the initiative in the matter because of the fact that the first young men's Catholic Association of the country was estabmeeting was called to order by Father Doane, who expressed great gratification at seeing so large a number present. The purpose for which they had met, the desire to enlarge their usefulness as Christians and citizens, was suited to the day, the birthday of the "Father of his Country." Before him (Father Doane) there were comparatively lew persons, but behind him there were millions. Mr. James F. Hagen then read the call of the meeting, which set forth that, "The growth and multiplication of young men's Catholic societies, having for their object the improvement of their members in various useful ways, and afforcing them opportunities for wholesome and innocent recreation, and uniting them in raternal charity, is a work which is extremely desirable, and calls for the hearty sympathy and support of all classes of our fellow Catholics. We have the good wisnes and encouragement of the most of our prelates and priests, under whose anspices and authority these societies exist, and the sympathy of sister societies. When the National Union is formed and properly organized, the work of affiliation can go on, and by the time the next Convention is held, or in a very few years at most, we shall have conventions representing, we trust, nundreds of societies and thousands of members. With the blessing of God and the co-operation of Sister James P. Hagen then read the call of the

ventions representing, we trust, nundreds of societies and thousands of members. With the
biessing of God and the co-operation of sister
societies, this Union will be accomplished and
prove a blessing and saleguard to the Catholic
young men of America."

On motion Vicar General Doane was chosen temporary chairman. After expressing his thanks
and hoping that a young man would be chosen
permanent president, as the young men showed
more activity in the work, it was stated that there
were ninety-eight delegates present, representing
forty-two different societies. M. J. Driscoli, of St.
John's, Brooklyn, was chosen temporary secretary,
and F. J. Newman, of St. John's, East Cambridge,
Mass., assistant temporary secretary. Messrs.
Lynca. Duan, Gleason, McManus, Kelcher and
Meagher were appointed a committee on credentials. On permanent organization the following committee was, on motion, appointed by the
chair, one from each diocese tepresented:
New York, E. F. McGlinchy: Brooklyn, George
Boyd; Newark, E. F. McClonall; Philadelphia,
F. M. Daly; Burdalo, John McManus; Bosion, M. A.
Martin; Rochester, Thomas F. Meagner; Albany,
F. D. Kelleher; Hartford, John Roper. White this
committee was absent, preparing their report.
Father Doane announced inat there would be held
in the evening a meeting for addresses, &c.; that
this morning the delegates, after mass, would
resume their session; that in the alternoon, at
halt-past flex, there would be a gymnastic exhibiin the evening a meeting for addresses, &c.; that this morning the delegates, after mass, would resume their session; that in the afternoon, at half-past five, there would be a gymnastic exhibition in the institute Gymnastium, and in the evening a catequet at the Fark House. The Committee on Permanent Organization reported the following as the officers of the Convention, the report being unanimously adopted:—President, Very Rev. George H. Doane, V. G., Newark. Vice Presidents—Rev. W. F. Penny, New York; A. Keegan, Philadelphia; M. F. Driscoll, Brockiyn; Rev. Edward Quigley, Buffaio; John H. Lynen, Albany; Joseph J. Keily, Boston; Mayor Thomas McManus, Hartford; Thomas F. Meagner, Rochester, Recording Secretaries—M. H. Siggerson, S. F. McDonough and P. P. Connolly. On assuming the chair Father Doane thanked the assemblage and said he took their bonor as a compliment, not to himself, but to the organization of which he was the head. On motion, the Chair appointed committees on Constitution and kylaws and on Resolutions. The gentleman named on the last roommittee by Chairman Doane to represent Brockiyn was not satisfactory to the Brock lyn delegation, so a delegate said, with some spirit. This spark of discord gave rise to much excitement and heated talk, many delegates trying to speak at once. Amid much confusion the Convention and ourned until to-day. to speak at once. Amid much confusion the Convention adjourned until to-day.

An excited Brooklyn delegate called upon the fifteen societies representing that city to withdraw. This was after Father Doane had declared the Convention adjourned. The question is open as to the action of the Brooklynites.

### FATAL EXPLOSION AT SING SING.

In one of the marble quarries connected with Sing Sing Prison yesterday alternoon a snocking accident occurred, which resulted in the instant death of one person, while two others were seriously if not fatally injured. It appears that several cans of nitro-glycerine were being conseveral cans of nitro-glycerine were being conveyed to the spot where a powerful steam urili is at work opening up a new vein of marble, when one of them, containing about twenty-five pounds of the dangerous compound was accidentally overturned. A terrine explosion followed, instantly klining ormando Humphrey, a seeper who had charge of the clasting operations, and influting terrible injuries on Charles Dingy, a citizen, and Edward F. Mattnews, one of the convicts. The injured men were promptify cared for, but it is feared the last named cannot survive.